Terrorists gunned down near Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine in J&K

5173. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether jawans in their fatigues are not allowed entry in Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine in Jammu and Kashmir to guard against mixing of ultras with our Jawans;

(b) how many ultras have been gunned down or nabbed in the vicinity of Mata Vaishno Devi during the last one year with names of the out-fits they belong to; and

(c) the number of pilgrims killed by the ultras visiting Mata Vaishno Devi during the last one year and the amount of compensation paid to the victims by the State and Centre separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Five terrorits were killed in an encounter with security forces near Gobian Nulla at village Gobian Palkhandi under Police Station Katra, District Udhampur during the last one year. The place of encounter was about 21 kms from Katra which is the base town of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine. The killed terrorists were suspected to be of Lashkar-e-Toiba outfit.

(c) No pilgrim has been killed during the last one year in the vicinity of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine as such the question of paying any compensation does not arise.

Lifting of ban on LTTE

5174. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to lift ban on LTTE;